

Amendments to Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A hot melt adhesive composition comprising, by weight of the hot melt adhesive composition,

- a) about 5 weight percent to about 60 weight percent of an [ethylene vinyl] ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer having a vinyl acetate content of about 30 weight percent to 50 weight percent and a melt index of about 700 to 4,000 dg/min;
- b) about [5] 30 weight percent to about 60 weight percent of a tackifier selected from the group consisting of terpene, terpene phenolic, modified terpene, and combinations thereof; and
- c) about 15 weight percent to about 55 weight percent of a wax with a melting point of about 125°F to 180°F;
wherein the hot melt composition can be applied at a temperature of 200°F to 300°F.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): An adhesive according to Claim 1 wherein the [ethylene vinyl] ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer comprises about 35 weight percent to about 45 weight percent vinyl acetate.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An adhesive according to Claim 1 wherein the [ethylene vinyl] ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer comprises about 40 weight percent vinyl acetate.

Claim 6 (previously amended): An adhesive according to Claim 1 wherein the wax is paraffin wax or synthetic wax.

(b)

Claim 7 (original): An adhesive according to Claim 1 additionally comprising up to about 5 weight percent of at least one additional tackifier selected from the group consisting of rosin, rosin derivatives, rosin ester, aliphatic hydrocarbons, aromatic hydrocarbons, aromatically modified aliphatic hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A hot melt adhesive composition comprising, by weight of the hot melt adhesive composition,

- a) about 35 weight percent of an [ethylene vinyl] ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer with about 40 weight percent vinyl acetate and having a melt index of ~~at about 1,000~~ ^{dg/min} ₁;
- b) about 30 weight percent of a tackifier selected from the group consisting of terpene, terpene phenolic, modified terpenes, and combinations thereof;
- c) about 5 weight percent of at least one additional tackifier selected from the group consisting of pentaerythritol, hydrogenated glycerol, and combinations thereof;
- d) about 30 weight percent of a wax with a melting point of about 150°F; wherein the hot melt composition can be applied at a temperature of 200°F to 300°F.

Claim 9 (original): A carton, case or tray formed utilizing the adhesive composition of [Claims] Claim 1, 7 or 8.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An adhesive according to Claim [3] 1 which comprises about 30 weight percent to about 60 weight percent of a terpene phenolic tackifier.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An adhesive according to Claim 1 which comprises about 35 weight percent to about 45 weight percent of an [ethylene vinyl] ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

Claim 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (new): An adhesive according to Claim 8 which comprises about 30 weight percent a terpene phenolic tackifier.